

Five Are Real Contenders For the Lightweight Title

Clabby, McGorty, Chip, Mike Gibbons and Murray Appear Strongest Claimants; All Show Superior Cleverness in Some Department of Fight Game, and Battles Will Be Deciding Test of Merit.

By TOM THORP.

WHO has the proper claim to the title of middleweight champion? That is a question that has been under discussion since the tragic death of Stanley Ketchel, the unbeaten champion, but the prospects for an early decision are now clearer today than they have been in some time. Eddie McGorty's reversal of form over in Australia, in which he scored a lightning win over the clever "Dave" Smith, has tended to clear up the middleweight horizon, since it has eliminated the foreigners from further consideration.

Despite the contention of many managers, who have kept the question open for business purposes, it has resolved itself into a question in which it may be said that only five men have withstood the acid test and today legitimate claimants to the coveted honors.

The Present Lineup.
Clabby, the San Francisco whirlwind; Eddie McGorty, the Wisconsin wizard and conqueror of Kilus and Smith; George Chip, the fast fighting Pittsburgh wonder, and Mike Gibbons, the St. Paul stamper; all of these men, along with Jack Dillon, who, because of his extra weight, has since graduated out of the class, with Billy Murray, the latest find of the coast fans, who scored a knockout over Houck, are to be taken under consideration when the question of the legitimate claimant to the middleweight title is decided.

The first five may be said to have a clearer claim to the title than the last two named, but, to avoid any dispute that may arise, the last two are taken into consideration. **Clabby and Murray Pitted.**
From Frisco the wire has kept warm by the telegraph dispatches exploiting the marvelous achievements of both Clabby and Murray. These two fighters are being proclaimed by the fans of the coast as the classic pair that have made their appearance since the good old days of Ketchel, Thomas and Papke.

Clabby, although several pounds under weight for his class, has nevertheless taken on the toughest boys in the business without a whimper, with the result that he has endeared himself to the fans to such an extent that he is the popular idol. Not only this, but he has by his successful and persistent good fighting heaped up sufficient evidence to give himself a clear claim for the premier honors. His victory over Eddie McGorty in Butte, Mont., is only one of the number of great battles that he has fought, in his struggle to reach the top of the heap. His good ring generalship and tremendous staying power have successfully offset his lack of weight, and today he is entitled to consideration by any claimant to the title in the country.

Murray Aggressive, Hard Hitting.
Billy Murray, his brother Californian, is a fighter of the aggressive, hard hitting type that is so uncommon to the fighting game at the present day. His win over Leo House, who was heavy and hard hitting fighter, earned for him a place among the top notchers.

Many experts on the coast pick this youngster as the coming champ, in fact, a number have gone so far as to call him a second Ketchel. Probably this is because of his great resemblance to Stanley when he squares off in the ring. The same aggressiveness that we all admired so much, in Ketchel stands out all over this boy. His hard driving power, as well as the unusual ability of being able to shift with extreme suddenness and from any position, a fact that Ketchel contributed more to his ability as a fighter than any other, are very pronounced.

McGorty Captivates Kankaroo Fans.
If we were to take the reports that emanate from the camp of McGorty in Australia or from the press reports of his marvelous showing in his last few battles, we would be compelled to eliminate from further consideration all other claimants to the title. Eddie, no doubt, has by his lightning finish of Dave Smith, captivated the fans of the land of the kangaroo. It can be easily seen that there is no Mike Gibbons or Clabby over there.

The Wisconsin boy, it must be admitted even by the most biased critics,

CLUB HOLDS FIRST BI-MONTHLY SHOOT

Many competed in the first bi-monthly trap shoot of the El Paso Gun Club at the Sunset Heights grounds Sunday, and good scores were made.

Shooters will be divided into A, B and C classes, each class to shoot for a prize on the first Sunday of each month. The next day bird shoot will be held Sunday, April 12.

The regular monthly shoot of the El Paso rifle club, which was scheduled for next Sunday on the Fort Bliss range has been postponed to the second Sunday in May on account of next Sunday being Easter. Most of the members want to attend church that day.

Scores at the trap shoot Sunday follow:

Name	Shots	Score
Bulwer	20	40
Thode	20	40
Brunner	20	40
Hall	20	40
Jamison	20	40
Carpenter	20	40
Ross	20	40
Johnson	20	40
Paul	20	40
Ratlidge	20	40
Shelton	20	40
Loren	20	40
Huchess	20	40
Barriques	20	40
Feldman	20	40

MARSANS, IRRITATED, QUILTS CINCINNATI

Cincinnati, O., April 7.—Armando Marsans, the Cuban outsider of the Cincinnati Nationals, informed August Hermann, president of the club, Monday, that he had been unjustly treated by manager Herzog and that he would not play with the team.

ROACH IS AWARDED DECISION ON FOUL

Denver, Colo., April 7.—"Spider" Roach of San Francisco was given the decision in a boxing contest at 121 pounds here Monday night over Young Abe Attell of Denver, in the third round of a scheduled 15 round fight.

Laughing at the Wife's Jokes



"Billy" Evans's Puzzling Problems of the Diamond

By Billy Evans
Famous American League Umpire.

THE balk rule is usually a trouble maker for the umpire. Every manager insists that his pitchers all perform properly, while every peculiar movement of an opposing twirler is regarded as a balk. Of late years, pitchers have paid much attention to developing moves that will hold base runners closely to the bags. Realizing the importance of base running, managers have compelled their pitchers to pay close attention when men get on. This practice has resulted in many pitchers developing moves to first base that continually have the umpires in hot water.

Last year, in an important amateur game in one of the major league cities, the failure of a pitcher to go through with his move got the umpire in charge of the game into a lot of trouble. In the first half of the ninth, with the score a tie, a runner reached first after two were down. This runner being a fast man, the pitcher worked his hardest to keep him close to the bag, thus minimizing his chances to steal and rendering him far less dangerous, for if he managed to reach second, a hit would be almost sure to score him and tie up the game.

The pitcher managed to keep the runner on first until he got the count two balls and two strikes. Then, as he was about to throw the ball to first, he realized that such a move would be useless because of the runner's big lead, and, instead of going through with his movement, he shifted to his pitching delivery and sent the ball to the batter. The pitcher did not believe that the umpire had detected the slight motion he had made in the direction of first, and hoped that possibly the batter might foul off the ball, which would force the runner to return to first.

The umpire, however, had seen the illegal move and had called a balk. The pitch was a perfect one, and the batter, not caring to take any chances, swung at the ball and missed, making what many of the fans believed the third strike, retiring the side. What action do you suppose the umpire took in the matter?

A few months later a play came up in one of the minor leagues with the conditions almost the same, except that the batter had two strikes and three balls. Instead of the batter striking out, he hit the ball to left field, it got away from the left fielder, and the runner on first as well as the batter made the circuit. What about this play?

(Copyright, 1914, by the Wheeler Syndicate, Inc.)

Answer to Yesterday's Problem.

WHEN the ball was thrown to third base, the umpire declared the runner out who had left the base too soon, which made the third out and retired the side. Consequently, instead of the home team forging ahead by a run, two runs were thrown away by the failure of the runner on third to hold his base until the fly ball was caught—B. E.

Good Diamond For the Ball Park Score Board Will Be Put Up

A PERFECTLY level diamond, a new club house, and a lineup board will be additions to Washington park field in the near future, according to Paul F. Atkinson, president of the El Paso City baseball league.

A thorough examination of the grounds was made Tuesday morning by Mr. Atkinson, in an endeavor to learn the total improvements necessary to make the park convenient for both fans and players alike.

The present diamond, grandstand and a piece of ground in the southeastern corner of the field were carefully examined by the official head of the club, who announced that preliminary steps would be taken within a short time toward definite arrangements which would make Washington park one of the best ball fields in the southwest.

Aside from the diamond, scoreboard and clubhouse, practically all details have been perfected.

New soil, vastly different from that which forms the substance of the present field, will be procured for the new grounds. The home plate will be within a more reasonable distance of the grandstand, the present diamond being over 90 feet from the site of home plate.

The new diamond will be located in the southern half of the field, where the Copper

Clabby And Murry May Fight Again

Moran Values Victory At \$1,000,000

DESIRE for a return bout has been expressed by Jimmy Clabby, promoter James Coffey, and Billy Murray, and the result of the discussion will probably be a second match. Jack Kearnes, manager of Murray, is anxious to get another crack at the middleweight championship claimant. Kearnes contends that Murray, who is practically a novice, was slow to get started against a clever, fast man like Clabby. Kearnes expressed the belief that in five more rounds Murray would have defeated the speedy contender. Larnie Lichtenstein, manager of Clabby, is equally as anxious to bring about such a match.

That Jim Thorpe, the noted Indian athlete will eventually make good, is fast becoming the general opinion in eastern baseball circles. Last season McGraw allowed the big fellow to appear in only 19 games, and he hit only .142. With all his tremendous speed he did not steal a single base. Members of the world touring party aver that Thorpe will put up a hard battle for a regular berth in the Giant outfield this year.

Frank Moran, the Pittsburgh heavyweight, values a knockout over Jack Johnson at \$1,000,000. A haymaker on the part of Moran will ring around the world as it will mean the supremacy of the white man in the boxing ring again. Moran is a man of confidence. The only weakness in his armor plate right now is over confidence. Moran and Johnson will split the revenue from the motion picture privilege.

A lot of difficulty is being experienced by manager Hank O'Day of the Cubs in getting a definite line on the recruits who will not be retained. O'Day must immediately reduce his club in order to come within the limit of 25 men, before the start of the season. All of the pitchers except big Jim Vaughn are in good condition and have shown surprising form thus far. Several utility outfielders, and a complete estate infield will be carried along by O'Day.

Despite a private exhibition of the "movie" of the fight, French fans are still panning the verdict of the Carpenter-Jeanette bout, staged in Paris several weeks ago. Criticism

of the verdict of the referee was expressed so freely that referee Reichel invited a number of sporting writers to witness the pictures of the fight. The opinions of the 40 present were not affected by the pictures. The majority were inclined to regard the match as a draw.

Billy Brady, ex-utility infielder of the El Paso White Sox, has been acquired by the Fort Bayard Copper league club. Overtures were made to the local player shortly after the disbandment of the White Sox. Brady has played for a number of years on the sand lots of this city. He is a peppy, fast infielder and one of the most reliable stickmen in the southwest.

Willie Ritchie, the lightweight champion, has left Glenwood Springs, Colo., for San Francisco where he is slated to meet Harlem Tommy Murphy. Ritchie declared that he would finish Murphy as soon as possible, a number of theatrical offers have been received by the titleholder, based on a victory in the coming match. On July 4 he will enter the ring again, ready to accept the best inducements offered, regardless of whom his opponent may be.

Leach Cross has started training for his scheduled 20 round contest with Freddie Welsh on April 19 at Vernon, Welsh has also arrived in Los Angeles, and will begin light work in a short time. Jimmy Duffy, the Lockport lightweight, who is credited with victories over Vernon Welsh and Cross is now heading for the coast.

"Bobby is a natural fighter, and I am training him, according to my own ideas," said Bob Fitzsimmons, a heavyweight champion, in a recent statement. Fitzsimmons added that his son is learning rapidly, and that when they get ready he can handle any of them. Fitzsimmons is of the opinion that his son can defeat any of the present crop of heavyweights, bar none.

GRIFITH USES REGULAR DEFENCE.

Washington, D. C., April 7.—For the first time since the Washington returned from the Virginia training camp, manager Griffith placed his regular defence on the field Monday against the Vigilants, a local semi-professional aggregation. The Americans won, 7 to 1.

Housekeepers Cooperative Department

Join Our Water Heater Club

We have mailed a number of circulars to our customers explaining the plan of the Water Heater Club; now for the benefit of those who have not received a circular we hope to reach you in this way.

If we can get a sufficient number of people who will buy water heaters to warrant our doing so, we will order a carload of copper coil water heaters, getting them at a lower cost than is possible buying in small lots, and we will give you the advantage of this reduction.

The price which we have obtained does not hold good indefinitely. It will, therefore, be necessary that every one wishing to join the club to let us know by April 12th.

This is a great opportunity to get a water heater cheap for your new home or the home you are already occupying.

Come to the office and let us explain this plan to you if you do not fully understand it.

El Paso Gas Co.

425 N. Oregon St.
Phone 3398.

Automobile & Accessories DIRECTORY

Borderland Auto Supply Company

LEE TIRES

THE QUALITY TIRE. Plain and Puncture Proof. Corner Myrtle & Kansas.

Auto Tires and Bosch Service Station--

Western Battery & Magneto Co., 508 N. Kansas